

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSM-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
TRSE-00 OMB-01 EB-08 HA-05 IO-13 ACDA-12 NSCE-00
SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 COME-00 LAB-04 SIL-01
AID-05 SSC-01 /124 W
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O 021405Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8590
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PGOV PINT EG
SUBJECT: OCTOBER CALLS FOR MORE COHESIVE, EFFECTIVE
- EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT

SUMMARY: APRIL 30 COMMENTARY IN OCTOBER MAGAZINE BY
ANIS MANSOUR HAS EXCITED CONSIDERABLE COMMENT IN CAIRO
POLITICAL CIRCLES SINCE IT READ AS REFLECTION PRESIDENT
SADAT'S CURRENT THINKING. MANSOUR CALLED FOR DECISIVE
ACTION BY PEOPLE TO PREVENT CAIRO FROM BURNING FOR THIRD
TIME. PEOPLE MUST SAVE THEMSELVES FROM MISGUIDED
DEMOCRACY. SALEM'S CABINET SAID TO LACK COHESION;
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CENTER PARTY LIKENED TO CART BEING PULLED BY HORSES IN
DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS. MANSOUR ALLEGED RETURN OF WAFD
BEGS QUESTION: WHY THE REVOLUTION? ASIDE FROM CABINET,
PEOPLES ASSEMBLY AND ALL NEWSPAPERS STRONGLY CRITICIZED
FOR ABUSE OF NEW FREEDOMS. SADAT CALLED UPON TO EX-
AMINE PROBLEMS PUBLICLY AND EXPLAIN HIS INTENDED COURSE
OF ACTION. HE SHOULD DO THIS, SAID MANSOUR, IN

TODAY'S LABOR DAY ADDRESS. END SUMMARY.

1. PRIME MINISTER. SADAT CONFIDANT ANIS MANSOUR BEGAN COMMENTARY IN APRIL 30 OCTOBER BY NOTING PERVERSIVE RUMORS SPREADING THROUGHOUT CAIRO, WITH PEOPLES' ANGER INCREASING AND PM SALEM CHOSEN AS SCAPEGOAT FOR ALL ILLS AFFLICTING EGYPTIAN SOCIETY. MANSOUR ALLOWED THAT SALEM HAS ENDURED MORE THAN ANY PREVIOUS PRIME MINISTER, INHERITING ALL EGYPT'S PAST PROBLEMS. PM DESCRIBED AS EFFICIENT, HONEST, CLEAN MAN WORKING NIGHT AND DAY TO SOLVE COUNTRY'S PROBLEMS. NEVERTHELESS, HE HAS BEEN UNABLE CONFRONT SUCCESSFULLY 20 YEARS OF NEGLECT AND HAS BECOME PEOPLES' TARGET.

2. SADAT. MANSOUR ALLEGED THAT SADAT'S TRIP TO JERUSALEM VIEWED BY MANY AS RESULT EGYPT'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. PRESIDENT'S SUBSEQUENT EXTENSIVE TRAVELS IN UPPER EGYPT SAID TO BE READ AS HIS GIVING UP ON PEACEFUL SOLUTION AND ATTEMPT DIVERT ATTENTION FROM FOREIGN POLICY. MANSOUR NOTED SADAT HAS ACCOMPLISHED MUCH, LISTING FAMILIAR LITANY OF OCTOBER WAR, ESTABLISHMENT RULE OF LAW, ABOLITION CONCENTRATION CAMPS, OPENING TO DEMOCRATIC LIFE, REVIVAL OF FREEDOM OF SPEECH, AND LOOSENING UP OF ECONOMIC POLICY. HIS PEACE INITIATIVE, SAID MANSOUR, IS "REAL HISTORICAL EVENT" WHICH HAS CHANGED WORLD. IT WILL HAVE RESULTS, BUT NOT AS SOON AS PEOPLE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EXPECTED. SADAT'S INITIATIVE AIMED AT ACHIEVING NON-MILITARY SOLUTION. EFFORT REACH LATTER EXHAUSTED EGYPT AND, IN ANY CASE, NO ONE WILLING GIVE EGYPT WEAPONS, NEITHER USSR NOR USG.

3. CABINET. MANSOUR POINTED OUT EGYPT NOT THE ONLY STATE FACING ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. HOWEVER, SALEM DOING THIS WITH DIVIDED CABINET AND PARTY. HIS MINISTERS DO NOT AGREE, HAVE NO TEAM SPIRIT. HE IS SUPPORTED NEITHER IN CABINET NOR IN PARTY NOR IN PRESS. ACCORDING MANSOUR, SALEM HAS REFRAINED FROM EXERTING PRESSURE BECAUSE HE DOES NOT WANT TO BE VIEWED AS POLICE OFFICER. RESULT IS THAT IN PEOPLES ASSEMBLY PARTY LACKS CLEAR STRATEGY AND ITS LEADERS ARE LIKE HORSES PULLING CART IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS.

4. WAFD. ABOVE PROBLEM CAN BE CORRECTED; DEMOCRATIC EXPERIMENT STILL AT BEGINNING OF APPLICATION. SALEM'S PARTY MAY LACK PAST BUT IT HAS FUTURE. NEW WAFD, ON OTHER HAND, HAS PAST BUT NO FUTURE. JULY REVOLUTION LAUNCHED TO CORRECT MISTAKES OF CORRUPTION BEGINNING WITH KING AND ENDING WITH WAFD. MAY REVOLUTION

WAS BORN TO CORRECT FAULTS OF JULY. MANSOUR
SAID HE BELIEVES CORRECTIVE EVOLUTION NEEDS ANOTHER
CORRECTION OF COURSE FROM SADAT AND SAID PRESIDENT
CAN DO THIS WITHOUT TREADING ON CONSTITUTION. HE
SHOULD GO TO PEOPLE AND ASK THEM FOR SUPPORT. FROM
PEOPLE SADAT GETS POWER AND LEGITIMACY.

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5. PERVERSION OF DEMOCRACY. MANSOUR NOTED EXISTANCE
OF LEGAL PARTIES AND FREEDOM OF SPEECH. HOWEVER, SAID
THIS FREEDOM ABUSED IN PEOPLES ASSEMBLY WITH MEMBERS
INSULTING PRESIDENT. OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE PARLIAMENT
TO ACCEPTABLE LEVEL BEING MISUSED TO DRAG DEMOCRACY
INTO GUTTER. MEMBERS FAIL ATTEND PARLIAMENTARY SESSIONS.
WHEN THEY ATTEND THEY AVOID RESPONSIBILITY. RHETOR-
ICALLY, OCTOBER'S EDITOR ASKED WHAT HAPPENED TO
TAXATION BILL? POOR ARE BEING TAXED HEAVILY WHILE
THOSE WHO EARNING MILLIONS ESCAPE.

6. PRESS. MANSOUR CASTIGATED NEWLY FOUNDED PARTY

NEWSPAPERS. NOTING AHRAR OWNER (MUSTAFA KAMAL
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MURAD) NOT AN OLD POLITICIAN BUT REVOLUTIONARY, STATED
HE OPPOSING GOVERNMENT SIMPLY FOR SAKE OF OPPOSITION.
AS FOR LEFT, IT ATTEMPTING CONFUSE PEOPLE AND DEBASE
LEVEL OF DEBATE, BRINGING INTO QUESTION HONESTY OF
ALL INVOLVED. WAFD PUBLICATION, MANSOUR PREDICTED,
WILL BE NO DIFFERENT.

7. OPEN DOOR. OPEN DOOR POLICY, ACCORDING MANSOUR,
HAS NOT WORKED. THOUSANDS OF POTENTIAL INVESTORS CAME
TO EGYPT AND LEFT AS RESULT POOR TRANSPORTATION
AND COMMUNICATIONS. FEAR SPREADING THAT EGYPT IS NOT
SERIOUS. THIS DEMONSTRATED BY OBSTACLES PLACED IN
IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS AND NON-UTILIZATION OF
FOREIGN AID. MANSOUR PREDICTED THAT IF PYRAMIDS
PLATEAU PROJECT OVERTURNED OTHER PROJECTS WILL
MATERIALIZE. FURTHER, ISRAEL WILL BE ABLE TO SAY THAT
EGYPT, EVEN UNDER SADAT, DOES NOT RESPECT AGREEMENTS
REACHED.

8. OLD POLITICIANS. MANSOUR ALLEGED OLD POLITICIANS
(READ WAFD) TRYING TURN CLOCK BACK TO OLD CORRUPTION.
QUESTIONED IF OLD POLITICIANS HAVE REGAINED THEIR
RIGHTS WHAT WILL PREVENT FORMER CENTERS OF POWER, WHO
TORTURED PEOPLE, FROM REGAINING THEIR STATUS.

9. WHAT TO DO. ACCORDING MANSOUR, PEOPLE ARE ASKING
WHETHER SADAT KNOWS ALL OF ABOVE AND, IF SO WHAT HE
INTENDS TO DO. HE NOTED SADAT DOES NOT TAKE DECISIONS
OUT OF ANGER. PRESIDENT COULD HAVE EFFECTED
COMPLETE CHANGE FOLLOWING JANUARY RIOTS. SADAT
REFRAINED BECAUSE HE DID NOT WISH SEVERE NATIONAL
SHAKE UP IN FACE EXTERNAL AND DOMESTIC PROBLEMS.
ALSO, DELAY PERMITTED SADAT TO LEARN WHO IS PUSHING
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WHOM AND WHO IS PAYING WHOM TO BURN CAIRO YET AGAIN.
SADAT'S ENEMIES, SAID MANSOUR, ARE TRYING TO
DEMONSTRATE THAT EGYPT IS WEAK AND PRESIDENT IN IN-
CAPABLE OF RULING. THIS HAS BEEN SOVIET INTENTION
SINCE SADAT ASSUMED POWER. HE NOTED THE SOVIETS ARE STILL
AFTER SADAT. MANSOUR CONCLUDED PRESIDENT WILL INTERVENE
PERSONALLY TO CORRECT COUNTRY'S COURSE.. INCOR-
RECT APPLICATIONS OF DEMOCRACY WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO LEAD

TO DOWNFALL OF DEMOCRACY. CAIRO WILL NOT BE PERMITTED
TO BURN FOR THIRD TIME. SADAT WILL ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS
CLEARLY, FRANKLY AND HONESTLY IN LABOR DAY SPEECH.

10. COMMENT: SPEECH (SEPTTEL) LIVED UP TO MANSOUR'S
PREDICTION. CABINET TO BE RESHUFFLED; OPPOSITION STRONG-
LY CASTIGATED. ONCE MORE, MONSOUR HAS DEMONSTRATED
HE IS HIS MASTER'S VOICE. EILTS

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